Navy petty officer first class earns Servicemember of the Quarter recognition

By Tech. Sgt. Andre Nicholson USU University Affairs

And the winner is ... Navy Hospital Corpsman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Leandro Aguda, a laboratory technician, who assists in teaching diagnostic parasitology and medical zoology to first year medical students at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU).

HM1 Aguda earned the title of enlisted Servicemember of the Quarter for January thru March 2005, which was announced by Master Chief Petty Officer (SW/FMF) Kevin Smith, the Brigade Senior Enlisted Leader, during the Quarterly Enlisted Awards Ceremony April 15 in Sanford Auditorium.

"I'm elated to be recognized for all the hard work I've done for this quarter," HM1 Aguda said.

Part of the process for being selected as the enlisted Servicemember of the Quarter is going before a board of senior enlisted advisors. They each present the nominee with four questions ranging from military topics to current events.

In the past, there was a quarterly award winner from each respective service. However, starting this year there will only be an overall enlisted Servicemember of the Quarter and HM1 Aguda was the first to be selected.

Although a native of the Philippines, HM1 Aguda considers Bremerton, Wash., home. He's married and has a 3-year-old son. In his spare time he enjoys spending it with his family, playing tennis and mountain biking.

He graduated from the University of the Philippines with a degree in civil engineering.

Among his normal work duties, he's also the career counselor for the Navy division here.

"I would like to thank the USU chain of command for giving me the opportunity to excel personally and professionally," HM1 Aguda explained. "I appreciate being recognized as the Servicemember of the Quarter."



Photo by USAF TSgt. James Steele

Navy Hospital Corpsman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Leandro Aguda, (center) holds his Certificate of Achievement after being announced as the Enlisted Servicemember of the Quarter for January thru March 2005 during the Quarterly Awards Ceremony April 15. HM1 Aguda is joined by Army Capt. Benjamin Kocher (far left) and Navy Master Chief Petty Officer Kevin Smith.



Photo by JOSN Kory Kepner

HM1 Leandro Aguda, does some testing in the lab. Aguda was selected as the Enlisted Servicemember of the Quarter for January - March.